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here subsides into silent, suffering condemnation. The writers have seen my book on "Waiver distributed among the departments Election, Estoppel, Contract, and Release," but it has not been of the slightest service to either of them.

And so, to the frequently repeated assertion that Anson on Contracts is the best book on the subject, I am still constrained to say, "Possibly, but what a distressingly humiliating confession!"

JOHN S. EWART.

Ottawa, Canada.

CELEBRATION LEGAL ESSAYS. By Various Authors. To Mark the Twenty-fifth Year of Service of John H. Wigmore as Professor of Law in Northwestern University. Chicago: Northwestern University Press. 1919. pp. 602.

This collection of articles, first fittingly published in the *Illinois Law Review*, is now issued in a single volume, with a useful index. While *Festschriften* have not been common in this country — that presented by his colleagues to Professor Langdell being among the first — this occasion is well justified by Professor Wigmore's distinguished career.

His first professional appointment, in a Japanese university, naturally turned Wigmore's attention to the general principles, rather than the details, of the common law; and immediately upon his return to this country and his appointment to the Northwestern University he began to give us the results of his speculative thought. His legal masters were, like those of most of us in that day, Thayer and Ames; and it is significant that Wigmore's most fruitful work has been in their fields, Evidence and Torts. From Ames he acquired the power of legal generalization which he has so nobly used in his analysis of the law of Torts; from Thayer the historic method and the point of view which he has worked out in his monumental book on Evidence. But while he has individually and originally developed these suggestions of his masters, Wigmore's great achievement as a legal scholar, his chief claim to fame, above his marked originality of analysis and his incisive individuality in construction, is his patient, energetic massing of his materials, his thorough and lawyerlike presentation and consideration of his evidence, his open-minded dealing with theories and arguments. His "Evidence" is the last word on the subject, because it covers everything that can profitably be said about it; his remarkable collection of materials for the study of Torts gets its chief value from the fact that one need not step outside its covers to find what material one requires. A classmate delights to lay at Wigmore's feet this slight word of appreciation for the individuality, the originality, and the scholarship of his friend.

Are the articles worthy of their occasion? That could hardly be expected of all of them. Inter arma leges at least minime dicunt. Out of thirty-three articles it is a pleasure to find at least eight of adequate quality. If one were to be selected for special commendation, the reviewer would name the remarkable study on Liberty of Testation by Professor McMurray. The other twenty-five are for the most part slight, but none profitless. As a collection it is

worthy of serious study.

JOSEPH H. BEALE.

The Grotius Society: Problems of the War. Volume II. London: Sweet and Maxwell. 1917. pp. xxv, 178.

This is a collection of the papers read before the Grotius Society in 1916. The rules of that body say that "it shall be a British Society." As many of the opinions on international law expressed in the present war by citizens of belli-